PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

TRANSLATION INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

	nt's or agent's file reference 04P101	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See F	See Form PCT/IPEA/416						
Internation	onal application No.	International filing date (day)	month/year) Priori	Priority date (day/month/year)						
PCT	/JP2004/012982	07.09.2004	08	3.09.2003						
Internation	onal Patent Classification (IPC) or nat	ional classification and IPC								
G06	T3/00 , H04N1/387									
Applicant										
NEC	NEC CORPORATION									
 This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 										
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of		sheets, including this o	over sheet.						
3.	This report is also accompanied by A	NNEXES, comprising:								
	a. (sent to the applicant and	l to the International Bureau) a	total of 4	sheets, as follows:						
	sheets of the descri	ption, claims and/or drawings v	which have been amende	d and are the basis for this report and/or						
	sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).									
	sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.									
	b. (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s))									
	o (sem to the International	bureau only) a total of (moreau	e type and number of ele	etronic carrer(s))						
	related thereto, in compute	r readable form only as indica		ntaining a sequence listing and/or tables Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see						
	Section 802 of the Adminis	•	ned in the suppremental	Son remains to sequence Bising (see						
4.	This report contains indications relat	ing to the following items:								
	Box No. I Basis of the	e report								
	Box No. II Priority									
	Box No. III Non-establ	ishment of opinion with regard	to novelty, inventive step	and industrial applicability						
	Box No. IV Lack of un	ity of invention								
	Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement									
	Box No. VI Certain documents cited									
	Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application									
	Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application									
Date of s	submission of the demand	Date of	completion of this repor	t						
			-							
Name an	nd mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Author	Authorized officer							
En agi mil	a Na	T-11-	Talanhona No							

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/012982

Box	No. I	o. I Basis of the report								
1.		Vith regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in tadicated under this item.	he language in which it was filed, unless otherwise							
	This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of: international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)) publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)									
		international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)								
2.	rece	With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report): the international application as originally filed/furnished the description:								
		pages _ 1-18	as originally filed/furnished							
		pages* received by this	Authority on							
		pages* received by this	Authority on							
	\boxtimes	the claims:								
		nos. 1-4, 7-14, 17-24, 27-30	as originally filed/furnished							
		nos.* as am	nended (together with any statement) under Article 19							
		nos.* received by this	Authority on							
		nos.* received by this	Authority on							
	\boxtimes	the drawings:								
		sheets fig. 1-12	as originally filed/furnished							
		sheets* received by this								
		sheets* received by this	Authority on							
		a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating	to Sequence Listing.							
3.	\boxtimes	The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:								
		the description, pages								
		the claims, nos5,6,15,16,25,26								
		the drawings, sheets/figs								
		the sequence listing (specify):								
			1							
4.		This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in	this report and listed below had not been made, since							
		the description, pages								
		the claims, nos.	the claims, nos.							
		the drawings, sheets/figs	the drawings, sheets/figs							
		the sequence listing (specify):	the sequence listing (specify):							
		any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):								
*	If ite	item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."								

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Novelty

The invention set forth in claims (hereinafter referred to as "C") 1-4, 7-10, 11-14, 17-20, 21-24 and 27-30 is not disclosed in any of the documents cited in the international search report and is, therefore, novel.

Inventive Step

The invention set forth in C1-4, 7-9, 11-14, 17-19, 21-24 and 27-29 does not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1-8 cited in the international search report. Document 1 discloses the same invention as is set forth in C1-4, 7-9, 11-14, 17-19, 21-24 and 27-29. As illustrated by fig. 1, 4 and 12 of document 1, the invention disclosed in document 1 displays the current partial image and at least a part of the mosaic image (see, in particular, fig. 1, 4 and 12). The feature set forth in C2, 12 and 22 wherein each of the image conversion parameters is set to a suitable value is disclosed in documents 2 and 3 and the feature set forth in C3, 13 and 23 wherein a high resolution image is generated using a mosaic image is disclosed in document 4, hence both features were known prior to the priority

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

date of the present application. Please refer to documents 5 and 6 in reference to the image display in C8, 18 and 28 and please see documents 7 and 8 in relation to the image display in documents 7 and 8.

The invention set forth in C10, 20 and 30 involves an inventive step in relation to the documents cited in the international search report. None of the cited documents discloses the feature wherein an image is displayed in which the colour is adjusted according to the numbers of layers of partial image. Moreover, it would not be easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of this feature from the feature disclosed in document 8, in which different types of gradation are applied to overlapping regions.

Industrial Applicability

The invention set forth in C1-4, 7-10, 11-14 and 17-20 relates to an image synthesising system and an image synthesising method and is, thus, industrially applicable. The invention set forth in C21-24 and 27-30 relates to a programme for operating an image synthesising process on a computer and is, thus, industrially applicable.

Cited Documents:

- 1. JP 2000-244814 A (Hitachi, Ltd.), 8 September 2000
- 2. JP 2001-14444 A (Topcon Corp.), 19 January 2001
- 3. JP 6-303561 A (Sony Corp.), 28 October 1994
- 4. JP 10-69537 A (NEC Corp.), 10 March 1998
- 5. JP 10-164563 A (Canon Inc.), 19 June 1998
- 6. JP 11-88767 A (Sony Corp.), 30 March 1999
- 7. JP 2-178646 A (Canon Inc.), 11 July 1990

International application No.
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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement										
8.									26	February	1993